

John Armstrong to Andrew Jackson, June 25, 1814, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

SECRETARY ARMSTRONG TO JACKSON.

War Department, June 25, 1814.

Sir, Your letters of the 8th and 13th instant have been received. Col. Butler is transferred from District No. 8 to District No. 7, and will of course, take your orders. I enclose you sundry letters forwarded to me by Major Gen. Pinckney. Those from Col. Milton (on the subject of the report of a new assemblage of the Creeks, the supplies received by them from the Spanish Government and the arrival of a British corps at St. Marks) are such as have been expected. No faith was given to the information received and communicated by Mr. Toulman.¹ The report of a B. naval force on our Southern Coast, is of nearly the same character. Having permitted the months of April May and June to escape without effort, on their part, it is not presumable, that they will attempt much during the hot and sickly seasons. These remarks are meant to apply to your argument for keeping up the large Militia force now in service in

¹ Judge Toulmin's letter to Colonel Milton, May 11, 1814, had referred to the Indian discontent and said it was supported by Spanish authorities in Florida. He had made no reference to a possible British attack on the coast near New Orleans. This letter is in the *National Intelligencer*, June 19, 1828, and in *Am. St. Papers, Milit. Aff.*, III. 785.

the Creek country and to furnish occasion to repeat the wishes of the President that this force be diminished and the whole of it discharged as early as may consist with the interests of the Public. There are now 3000 men of this description employed, to hold the country against the fugitives, who have escaped the destruction you carried among them.

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It is not probable that the Seminoles, who wisely refused to take part in the war, when its issue was doubtful, will now be disposed to renew the combat, on their account and under no new reason for so doing. . . .